
INTRODUCTION TO EMT-I PROTOCOLS

The California Health and Safety Code defines Medical Control as:

“The direction and management of prehospital field personnel, delivered by qualified physicians and authorized registered nurses licensed in the State of California, prospectively by protocols to provide standards for patient care, immediately by direct voice communication with an authorized physician or registered nurse, or written procedures, and retrospectively by means of medical audit of field activity and continuing education standards, within the policies of the local system.”

These Prehospital Treatment Protocols have been developed to serve as guidelines for treatment of acutely ill and injured patients by Emergency Medical Technician (EMTs) operating within the ICEMA Region.

All EMTs are authorized and directed to utilize these protocols as guidelines for patient care unless specifically instructed to the contrary by the Base Hospital physician. The physician may deviate from the possible treatment modalities listed forthwith, if it is deemed medically appropriate.

All EMTs, Base Hospitals, and EMT provider agencies are required to conform to the equipment, supply, communication and recordkeeping protocols contained in this manual.

Prior to implementation, these Prehospital Treatment Protocols have been reviewed by the ICEMA Advisory Committees. Assurance of protocol compliance will rest with the same groups. Additionally, on-going monitoring will provide for evaluation of the efficacy and appropriateness of the protocols with periodic review and revision necessary to accommodate changing technology, philosophy and legislation.